

103^D CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

S. J. RES. 224

Designating November 1, 1994 as “National Family Literacy Day”.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 27 (legislative day, SEPTEMBER 12), 1994

Mr. SIMON (for himself, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. PELL, Mr. REID, Mr. WOFFORD, Mr. MATHEWS, Mr. BINGAMAN, and Mr. KENNEDY) introduced the following joint resolution; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

JOINT RESOLUTION

Designating November 1, 1994 as “National Family Literacy Day”.

Whereas millions of American families are trapped in a cycle of poverty, dependency, and undereducation;

Whereas research shows that the most important factor in determining the life chances of a child is the level of educational attainment of the parents of the child;

Whereas a child whose parents lack a high school diploma are more than twice as likely to live in poverty than a child whose parents are high school graduates;

Whereas the level of education of a parent affects the level of literacy of the children of the parent, even when the children become adults;

Whereas family literacy programs can increase parent involvement in the education of children of the parent;

Whereas a child in a family literacy program demonstrates greater gains than a child in a child-focused program;

Whereas an adult participating in a family literacy program is more likely to remain in the program than an adult participating in an adult-focused program;

Whereas family literacy programs, such as Even Start and Head Start, provide a promising approach to improving the literacy skills of families; and

Whereas if literacy is to be increased among the next generation of families, it is necessary to use family literacy programs to increase the educational skills of parents and children of the parents: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*
 2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
 3 That November 1, 1994 is designated as “National Fam-
 4 ily Literacy Day”. The President is authorized and re-
 5 quested to issue a proclamation calling on the people of
 6 the United States to observe this day with appropriate
 7 ceremonies and activities.

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